GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:135
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006
IMPORT OF WHEAT
Yadav Shri Ram Kripal

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to import wheat during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the old stocks of wheat in Food Corporation of India godowns are being sold at throw away prices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government has allowed STC to import 5 lakh MTs of wheat at the Southern ports only. This wheat is expected to arrive between end March, 2006 to mid May 2006.

(b): The above decision was taken keeping in view the reduced wheat stocks in the Central pool, the need to keep a check on the open market prices of wheat as well as to augment the domestic availability of wheat and since the Government is fully committed not to compromise in the matter of food security.

(c): No Sir.

(d): Does not arise.